pair of similar bones in the Hamster.[1] It is possible that these are to be referred to the same category. It has also been

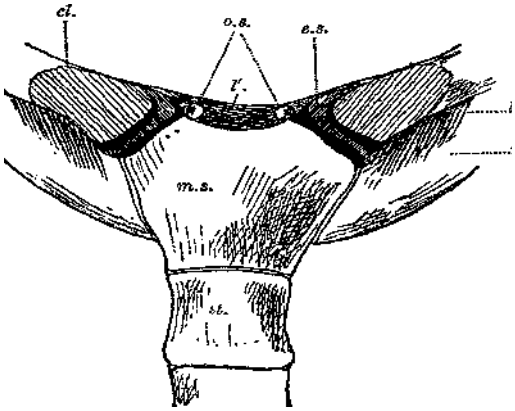

FIG. 24.—Episternal vestiges in Man. *cl,* Clavicle, sawn through ; *es,* " episternum (sterno-clavicxilaj[1] cartilage); *I* |interclavicular ligament ; *I",* costo-clavicular ligarueat ; *yn.s,* manuforium stemi ; o,s_t ossa suprastemalia J *r.c,* first rib ; st_t sternum. (From. Wiedersheim's *Structure of Man.}*

suggested that these supposed episternal rudiments are the vestiges of a pair of cervical ribs.

The Pectoral Girdle.—The skeleton by which the fore-limb is connected with the trunk is known as the Pectoral Girdle. The main part of this girdle is formed by the large scapula, or blade-bone as it is often termed. The coracoidal elements will be dealt with later. The scapula is not firmly connected with the backbone; it is attached merely by muscles, thus presenting a great difference from the corresponding pelvic girdle. The reason for this difference is not easy to understand. On the one hand it may be pointed out that in all running animals at any rate there is a greater need for the fixation in a particularly firm way of the hind-limbs; but, again, in the climbing creatures both limbs would, one might suppose, be bettered by a firm fixation. It must be remembered, however, that in the latter case the same

result is at least partly brought about by a well-developed clavicle, which fixes the girdle to the sternum and so to the vertebral column by means of the ribs.

Broadly speaking, too,, the fore-limbs require a greater freedom and variety of movement than the hind-limbs, which are supports

[1] ***Veryl. Anat. der WirbeMJi.*** **Leipzig, 1898, p. 497,**